

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 119807
ORIGIN SAB-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 NSC-05 SS-15
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DRAFTED BY S/AB:DLAZAR
APPROVED BY ARA/PAN:EJNADEAU
-----250444Z 032413 /23

R 242155Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

UNCLAS STATE 119807

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PN

SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE PRESS BRIEFING, MAY 18

1. THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE WEDNESDAY, MAY 18,
AT THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS BRIEFING:

Q. WHAT WAS THE PRESIDENT'S REACTION TO GENERAL TORRIJOS'
STATEMENT THAT PANAMA CAN ACCEPT THE U.S. RIGHT TO INTERVENE
AGAINST THE THIRD COUNTRY TO PROTECT THE NEUTRALITY OF THE
CANAL AND IN THE SAME INTERVIEW HIS STATEMENT WE WILL NOT
ACCEPT ANYTHING IN WRITING THAT CAN JUSTIFY AN AMERICAN
INTERVENTION? A. I DON'T KNOW OF ANY PRESIDENTIAL REACTION.
I WOULD DOUBT THAT WE WOULD WANT TO REACT.

Q. TO FOLLOW THAT UP, WHY IS IT THAT WHEN GENERAL
TORRIJOS CONSTANTLY SPEAKS OUT AND GIVES HIS PEOPLE WHAT
I PRESUME HE WOULD TERM GUIDANCE AND THAT EVERY TIME HE
MAKES A STATEMENT, FROM OUR LEADERS WE GET A DESIRE NOT TO
SAY ANYTHING? A. I ASSUME IT IS JUST A MATTER OF JUDGEMENT
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ON WHAT IS THE MOST PRODUCTIVE WAY TO PURSUE THE NEGOTIATIONS.

2. NO FURTHER QUESTIONS WERE ASKED.

VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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